

Remember me to John Richardson, & tell the little boys Thomas & George  
 that I am sending them a ship, & that they are not to forget their old friend.  
 Be kind enough to forward the  
 enclosed to J. B. M. as early as  
 convenient. It will be two months  
 or more before I shall hear  
 from you. I fear she will be  
 at the bottom. Through I should  
 be told so, as correspondence  
 by letter is in our circumstances  
 must ever be uncertain.  
 Accept of the salutation of friendship  
 in all my companionships.  
 from thy sincere friend,  
 Geo. W. Moore  
 I am not aware that I have as  
 any parcel addressed to  
 thee but that I have contained  
 the same. I think the others  
 contain a book of interest  
 as additions to the Librarian.  
 Another is (I think) sent  
 at Moreton Bay, for the  
 destruction of the Librarian  
 principle. I think I have  
 the Commissioner's office  
 at that place. I have  
 to draw his notice to it.  
 & that he might not be imple-  
 mented in the Librarian's  
 office before his friend that  
 he would not drink himself  
 to the bottom of the bottle of  
 rum, whilst he were  
 living. I am sure you  
 will be more so.

When I had the pleasure of addressing  
 thee about five weeks ago my dear Companion & myself were  
 preparing for a Voyage to the Penal Settlement of Moreton Bay.  
 In consequence of being subpoenaed as Witnesses in the trial for Libel  
 Threlkeld v. Lang, in the Supreme Court, we were detained some days  
 longer than we had anticipated, so that it was the 22<sup>nd</sup> ult. before we  
 were ready to start in the Govt. Schooner, Isabella; by a happy coincidence  
 she also was detained in Harbour until the morning of that day, as a  
 passage <sup>in her</sup> had been kindly furnished us by the Governor, with permission  
 to visit the Sett<sup>ls</sup> at Moreton Bay. We were proceeding on board early in  
 the morning, when information that two vessels from Hobart Town had  
 arrived the same morning in the harbour, in addition to one the previous  
 evening, & that their mails were likely to be deliv<sup>d</sup> in the course of an  
 hour or two, induced me to delay my departure for that period, by  
 which means I had the satisfaction of receiving thy favour of the 15<sup>th</sup>  
 ult. & welcome enclosure, for which I felt not a little thankful.  
 The News of poor Wm. Croftbridge's decease excited feelings of mourn-  
 ful interest in our minds; yet, if his soul be at rest, which I trust  
 we may confidently hope, believing that for ~~messengers~~ his more recent  
 aberrations he would not be held accountable in the sight of the  
 Omnipotent Judge of quick & dead; on account of both himself  
 & his family we may rather rejoice than mourn that he is released  
 from the trials & sufferings of mutability. We shall be interested in  
 hearing particulars of the interment; I hope it may have been conducted



in a manner <sup>free</sup> accordant with the principles of the deceased, as ~~modest~~  
and so as  
an ~~unspeakable~~ <sup>unspeakable</sup> wrong not to offend the feelings of surviving relatives & friends.

We had a pleasant voyage of six days to Moreton Bay, where we arrived on the 28<sup>th</sup> 3 PM. After the pilot had conducted us in safety over the dangerous flats forming the bar, & extend some miles from the narrow passage between Moreton & Amity Islands, by which we entered the Bay, the Isabella came to anchor 10 miles up the Bay; while we proceeded in the boat conveying the despatches to the Settlement; where we arrived, (after being rowed 36 miles during the night) at six o'clock on the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup>. The Commandant Captain Lyons, of the 4<sup>th</sup> Regt. received us courteously, & we became his guests until the 11<sup>th</sup> inst. when we joined the Isabella at the mouth of the Bay, expecting to get off to sea the following day. During our stay at the Penal Settlement, which is called Brisbane Town, we had many religious interviews with the Prisoners, & were strengthened to communicate the gospel message of reconciliation through the mediation & intercession of a Crucified Redeemer unto all who truly repent. & believe in his Name, & thus come unto God through him. The discharge of duty in this respect affords a successful retrospect. May it prove like bread cast upon the waters that shall yield a return after many days. The Estab<sup>t</sup> at Brisbane Town includes rather more than 400 prisoners. 71 of whom are Females, many of them also having Children. Of the latter there are 22 in number. The adults both men & women, are kept for the most part at agricultural employments, of which the growth of Maize, or Indian Corn, is the principal. They are just gathering a harvest of at least 10 or 12000 bushels of this useful grain. Most of the persons banished to this Settlement are for short periods viz. three to seven years. Upon the whole it is hardly inferior in climate & local advantages to the Settlement of Norfolk Island, it is indeed a delightful place. The verdure & luxuriance of the vegetation, as contrasted with the neighb<sup>r</sup> of Sydney greatly surprised me, as I had expected from the proximity of Moreton Bay to the line, being in Lat 27. 33 South, that the country would have



assumed an unusually dry & parched appearance. The very reverse  
is the fact. The Tongues are numerous in these parts, but generally  
friendly. The vessel being detained for six days at the mouth of the harbour,  
in consequence of a magisterial state of the bar, we rendered it unsafe  
to attempt crossing it; we had an opportunity of seeing a considerable  
number of these interesting people, who form so injured a portion of our  
race. Many of them, I am sorry to say, even in these remote parts, are  
labouring under the influence of the evil propensities, which are  
licentiousness, and renders their condition very deplorable. The  
that continues to subsist between them & the Whites, is far from tending to  
ameliorate their condition. I fear, in regard to either civilization or morals.  
The presence of a number of naked men & women, whose notions of morality  
especially among the unbaptized females, is of the loosest description, can  
hardly fail to have a deteriorating effect on the Whites, while on the other  
hand the morality of Prisoners & Soldiers, who is notoriously loose, is not  
at all of a nature to counteract it, but rather to aggravate the evil on both  
sides. We had the Blacks assembled to the number of 50 or upwards,  
& presented a handkerchief to each of them. Men, women, & children, with  
which they were much delighted. There are ~~among~~ <sup>many</sup> children among  
them, & but for the malady I have mentioned, would be generally healthy.  
But some of the poor children are not free from this sad affliction in  
even. But when not suffering from this cause, the generality of the Blacks, you  
old, of both sexes, appear to be a healthy & athletic race. The night  
before we left Amity Point (the Pilot's station) we saw two warriors  
engaged in single combat, with waddies, & shields. The dexterity with  
which each avoided the blows of the other, or warded them off with his  
shield, was very remarkable; & though one could not but lament that  
they should adopt such a barbarous mode of settling disputes, on a fair  
comparison <sup>of this country</sup> with the practice of duelling, I could not but  
yield it the palm in point of civilization, reason. For the warrior  
generally wears a broken head, in the former case; while in the latter,  
men endowed with cultivated reason, often highly cultivated, & possessing  
the peaceful spirit of the gospel, meet one another like fiends, thirsting  
for one another's blood, with powder & ball, to the destruction it may  
be both of body & soul; inasmuch as they thus set at defiance the  
laws of their Creator, at the very moment they may have to appear in his  
presence. — 15<sup>th</sup> Mar. 1836 (S. Young.) My dear friend, the above was written under



the expectation of going ashore at Port Macquarie, when we should have forwarded our letters by the *Isabella* to Sydney. The weather not allowing of debarkation, we could not carry our intentions into effect. We afterwards were driven into Port Hunter, took the opp<sup>y</sup> of visiting the Missionary Estab<sup>t</sup> under L. E. Threlkeld at Lake Macquarie, with which we were much interested & believe this individual, though often greatly calumniated in public prints, to be a persevering zealous labourer, who deserves the good opinion of his fellow Christians. We reached Sydney in safety, through the continuance of Providential care & goodness, the 3<sup>d</sup> inst. when we had the pleasure of receiving thy acceptable favours of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> ult. respectively. We sh<sup>d</sup> have been pleased with the acquaintance of thy friends & M. Spence, but understand they have proceeded to the field of their future labours. We have not seen any of our Wesleyan friends

2416/R25

L. J. Brouck,

Sheriff's Office,

Robert Town

V. D. Lands.



with whom we are acquainted since our return. M. & A. Turner have also left for their ultimate destination at New Zealand. We are obliged for the particulars respecting W. Shroobridge's interment &c. & for other information as well as for thy kind attention respecting the Deed of Gift. J. B. will write respecting it, as I have so little room to make additions here. Tell J. B. M. if in H. Town that I fully intend writing soon, but cannot compose it this opportunity. I need not add we were truly glad to hear of the dear child's improvement, nor assure thee what a source of satisfaction it was to us both to hear that the forebodings and the symptoms once excited, ~~may~~ nevertheless fail to be ~~made good~~ answered by corresponding realities. Give my love, & that of my dear Companion, to Sarah. Martha Matilda Birnie was greatly obliged for her kind, considerate present. M. M. B. is a very friendly disposed person, & we often visit her